GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:56
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003
INTEGRATED CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES SCHEME
BHERU LAL MEENA

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 85 percent of funds under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme are incurred on infrastructure and salaries of the employees and only 15 percent of the amount reaches the genuine beneficiaries; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that the beneficiaries get the benefits of this scheme in substantial measure?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a)&(b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 56 FOR 23.7.2003 BY MAHENDRASINGH PALANDSHRIBHERULALMEENA REGARDINGINTEGRATEDCHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICE SCHEME

(a) & (b) No, Sir. It is not correct to say that 85 percent of funds under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme are incurred on infrastructure and salaries of the employees and only 15 percent of the amount reaches the genuine beneficiaries. The ICDS Schemeis the world's largest community based child development programme which aims at holistic development of children (0-6 years) and pregnant & lactating mothers from disadvantaged sections. It is a platform for providing multifarious services consisting of supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, non-formal pre-school education and nutrition & health education. Currently, services under the Scheme are being provided to about 388 lakh beneficiaries, comprising of about 322 lakh children below 6 years and about 66 lakh pregnant and lactating mothers through a network of about 6.0 lakh Anganwadi Centres.

In the year 2001-02, the latest year for which details of Central and States expenditure are available, the expenditure on infrastructure ans salary was about Rs.1376 crore, agsinst which medicine kits, pre-school education kits and supplementary nutrition of the order of about Rs.1910 crore were provided to the beneficiaries. In addition, Anganwadi Centres also provided early childhood education, nutrition & health education, and life skill education to children, adolescent girls and pregnant & lactating mothers for which no value can be assessed in monetary terms.

Improvement is a continuous process. Several steps have been taken during the past few years to make the delivery of services under the Scheme more effective and result oriented. With concerted efforts, the supplementary nutrition beneficiaries have increased from 290 lakh in March 2001 to 388 lakh in March 2003 with beneficiaries per Anganwadi Centre increasing from 70 in March 2001 to 83 in March 2003.